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## Slovenia

### Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards

### Country Report

2005

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**Report Highlights:**

On May 1, 2004, Slovenia has become a member of the European Union (EU), and all EU food rules, regulations, and laws apply. This report provides information on the laws and regulations for food, food import rules, and contact information in Slovenia. All sections of this annual report were updated in August 2005.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Vienna [AU1]  
[SI]

Disclaimer: This report has been prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/FAS (in Vienna, Austria) for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care has been taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped.

**NOTE: FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.**

## I. FOOD LAWS DEALING WITH IMPORTS

The Slovenian food legislation consists of the following types of laws:

- Act Regulating the Sanitary Suitability of Foodstuff, Products and Materials Coming into Contact with Foodstuffs (Official Gazette UL 52/2000, UL 42/2002, UL 47/2004)
- Wine Law (Official Gazette UL 70/1997, UL 16/2001)
- Act on Marine Fishing (Official Gazette UL 58/2002)
- Veterinary Practice Act (Official Gazette UL 33/2001)
- Act on Agriculture (Official Gazette UL 54/2000)
- Act on Standardization (Official Gazette UL 1/1995)

These laws are valid both for domestic and imported products.

Scope of laws and regulations:

1. Act Regulating the Sanitary Suitability of Foodstuff, Products and Materials Coming into Contact with Foodstuffs and derived regulation.

This Act defines conditions that foodstuff, foodstuff additives, products and materials coming into contact with foodstuffs must fulfill to meet health standards. This law regulates the oversight over production and trade with foodstuff, foodstuff additives, products and materials coming into contact with foodstuffs with the intention to protect human health, consumer interest, and uninterrupted trade in the Slovenian market, as well as uninterrupted foreign trade. It also regulates the monitoring of adequate food safety for foodstuffs, foodstuff additives, products and materials coming into contact with foodstuffs, as well as interdisciplinary and international co-operation in fields of food safety issues and food policy.

Derived regulations include:

- Regulation on Infant Formula (Official Gazette UL 46/2002, UL 117/2002, UL 42/2003, UL 20/2004, UL 32/2004)
- Regulation on Foodstuff for Special Health Use (Official Gazette UL 46/2002)
- Regulation on Foodstuff for Special Diets (Official Gazette UL 46/2002, UL 117/2002, UL 42/2003, UL 41/2004)
- Regulation on Conditions that Foodstuff Without Gluten Must Fulfill (Official Gazette UL 46/2002)
- Regulation on Cereal Grits and Foodstuff for Infants and Small Children (Official Gazette UL 48/2002, UL 117/2002, UL 42/2003, UL 20/2004)
- Regulation on Foodstuff Hygiene (Official Gazette UL 60/2002, UL 104/2003, UL 11/2004, UL 51/2004)
- Regulation on Nutritional Labeling (Official Gazette UL 60/2002, UL 117/2002, UL 42/2003, UL 121/2004)

- Regulation on Frozen Foodstuff Safety (Official Gazette RS 63/2002, 117/2002)
- Regulation on Official Oversight of Frozen Foodstuff Temperatures (Official Gazette RS 63/2002, 117/2002)
- Regulation on Foodstuff Contaminants (Official Gazette UL 69/2003, UL 20/2004) is not valid any more except for article 9
- Regulation on Pesticide Residues on Foodstuff (Official Gazette UL 84/2004)
- Regulation on Official Health Oversight on Foodstuff (Official Gazette UL 73/2003, UL 45/2004, UL 97/2004)
- Regulation on Foodstuff, Products and Materials Coming into Contact with Foodstuffs (Official Gazette UL 75/2003, UL 44/2004) is not valid any more except article 31
- Regulation on Materials and Products Intended to be in Contact With Foodstuff (Official Gazette UL 36/2005)
- Regulation on General Labeling of Packaged Foodstuff (Official Gazette UL 50/2004, UL 58/2004, UL 43/2005, UL 64/2005)
- Regulation on General Labeling of Foodstuff that is not Packaged (Official Gazette UL 28/2004, UL 10/2005, UL 57/2005)
- Regulation on Additives for Foodstuff (Official Gazette UL 43/2004, UL 8/2005)
- Regulation on Measurements of Purity for Additives (Official Gazette UL 45/2004, UL 4/2005)
- Regulation on Aromas (Official Gazette UL 77/2001, UL 31/2004)
- Regulation on Extraction Dissolvent (Official Gazette UL 7/2001, UL 45/2004)
- Regulation on Foodstuff Irradiated with ionizing Radiation (UL 71/2002, UL 86/2003, UL 51/2004)
- Regulation on Drinking Water (Official Gazette UL 19/2004, UL 35/2004)
- Regulation on Mineral, Spring and Table Water (Official Gazette UL 50/2004)
- Regulation on Eruka Acid (Official Gazette UL 20/2004, UL 61/2004)
- Regulation on Fat Based Products Used as Spreads (Official Gazette UL 71/2000, UL 78/2003)
- Regulation on Casein and Caseinats (Official Gazette UL 31/2004)
- Regulation on Oil Seeds Oil (Official Gazette UL 31/2004)
- Regulation on Special Conditions for Import of Brazilian Nuts in Shell from Brazil (Official Gazette UL 20/2004)
- Regulation on Special Conditions for Import from Defined Countries of Walnuts, Hazelnuts, Figs and Products Produced from Mentioned Nuts and Fruits (Official Gazette UL 131/2003, UL 20/2004)
- Regulation on Food Supplements (Official gazette UL 82/2003, UL 44/2004)
- Regulation on Foodstuff Intended for Use in Energy Limited Diets for Losing Weight (Official Gazette UL 90/2000, UL 142/2004, UL 24/2005)
- Regulation on Preservatives for Surface Processing of Citruses (Official Gazette UL 2/2004)
- Regulation on Content of Histamines in Defined Fish Species (Official Gazette UL 42/2003)
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## 2. Wine Law and derived regulation.

This Law regulates geographic origin protection specifics of grapes, wine and other products derived from grape and wine; production of wine grapes; production of must and wine; production of other products from wine and secondary products of grapes and wine; and placing grapes, must, wine and other products from grapes and wine on the market.

Derived regulations include:

- Regulation on Geographic Origin Register for Wine and Other Products from Grapes and Wine (Official Gazette UL 68/2002, UL 42/2003)
- Regulation on Labeling and Packing of Wine, Must and Other Grape and Wine Products (Official Gazette UL 40/2001, UL 52/2003, UL 44/2005)

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### 3. Act on Marine Fishing and derived regulations

This Law defines the aims and directives for marine fishing and regulates management with fish sources, access to fish sources, public service and financing in marine fishing. It also regulates management of fish and fish products trade and organizations for fishing in general, which are all applicable for international fish and fish products caught in foreign waters.

Derived regulations include;

-- Regulation on Quality of Fish and Fish Products in Trade (Official Gazette UL 94/2002, UL 42/2003)\

-- Regulation On Fish And Products Derived From Them (Official Gazette UL 94/2002, UL 42/2003)

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### 4. Veterinary Practice Act and derived regulations

This Act defines contagious animal diseases, veterinary prophylaxis, the minimum of animal health, charges and expenditures in the field of animal health, the veterinary activities and implementation thereof, public authorizations of the Veterinary Chamber, licensing, professional training in veterinary medicine, registers, databases and information technology system, the competence of governmental departments, the inspection and control, and the rights and obligations of companies and their employees under this act.

Derived Regulation:

-- Regulation on Labeling Health Suitability of Foodstuff of Animal Origin (Official Gazette UL 18/2004)

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### 5. Act on Agriculture and derived regulations

This Act defines the aims of agricultural policy, layout of agricultural and rural development, measures in agricultural policy, quality and labeling of agricultural products respectively foodstuff, trade with agricultural products (respectively foodstuffs), public services, data bases and information on agriculture, proceedings and government bodies in charge of law implementation, researches, education and development projects, as well as inspection oversight.

Derived regulations include:

-- Regulation on Quality of Poultry Meat (Official Gazette UL 56/2001, UL 94/2002, UL 21/2004, UL 10/2005)

-- Regulation on Poultry Meat Products (official Gazette UL 59/2002, UL 78/2003)

-- Regulation on Using the Term Milk and Using Names for Milk Products (Official Gazette UL 11/2001)

-- Regulation on Cow's Milk Quality (Official Gazette UL 62/2003)

-- Regulation on Kefir Quality (Official Gazette UL 66/2003, UL 126/2003)

-- Regulation on Dehydrated Canned Milk (Official Gazette UL 31/2004)

-- Regulation on Casein and Caseinats (Official Gazette UL 31/2004)

-- Regulation on Oil Seeds Oil (Official Gazette UL 31/2004)

-- Regulation on Beer Quality (Official Gazette UL 3/2003)

-- Regulation on Tea Quality (Official Gazette UL 48/2003, UL 87/2004)

- Regulation on Quality of Mustard (Official Gazette UL 12/2003)
- Regulation on Egg Quality (Official Gazette UL 22/2004, UL 62/2004)
- Regulation on Quality of Cocoa and Chocolate Products (Official Gazette UL 72/2003, UL 43/2005, UL 58/2005)
- Regulation on Coffee and Chicory Extracts Quality (Official Gazette UL 2/2004)
- Regulation on Quality of Meat Products (Official Gazette UL 34/2004, UL 62/2004, UL 50/2005)
- Regulation on Grading and Marking of Beef Carcasses on Slaughter Line (Official Gazette UL 103/2001, UL 34/2002, UL 31/2004)
- Regulation on Beef Labeling (Official Gazette UL 57/2005)
- Regulation on Grading and Marking of Carcasses from Sheep and Lamb on Slaughter Line (Official Gazette UL 28/2001)
- Regulation on Categorization, Marking of Meatiness and Selection of Slaughtered Pig Carcasses (Official Gazette UL 22/2004, UL 33/2004, UL 104/2004, UL 33/2004, UL 10/2005)
- Regulation on Quality of Baking Soda, Pudding Powder, and Vanilla Sugar (Official Gazette UL 12/2003)
- Regulation on Quality of Baking Products (Official Gazette UL 26/2003, UL 28/2004)
- Regulation on Quality of Marmalades, Jellies, Jams and Sweet Chestnut Mush (Official Gazette UL 31/2004)
- Regulation on Honey (Official Gazette UL 31/2004, UL 89/2004)
- Regulation on Juice Quality and defined Alike Products (Official Gazette UL 31/2004)
- Regulation on Distilled Drinks (Official Gazette UL 50/2003, UL 91/2003)
- Regulation on Quality of Grain Products (Official Gazette UL 26/2003, UL 31/2004)
- Regulation on Spices (Official Gazette UL 63/2002)
- Regulation on Vinegar and Diluted Acetic Acid Quality (Official Gazette UL 2/2004)
- Regulation on Salt Quality (Official Gazette UL 70/2003)
- Regulation on Sugars (Official Gazette UL 34/2004)
- Regulation on Natural Mineral Water, Spring Water, Table Water (Official Gazette UL 50/2004)
- Regulation on Quality of Vegetable Oil, Vegetable Fats and Mayonnaise (Official Gazette UL 122/2003, UL 16/2005)
- Regulation on Aromas (Official Gazette UL 77/2001, 31/2004)
- Regulation on Additives for Foodstuff (Official Gazette UL 43/2004, UL 8/2005)
- Regulation on Organization of Trade with Wine Grapes, Must and Wine
- Regulation on Labeling of Packaged Foodstuff (Official Gazette UL 50/2004, UL 58/2004, UL 43/2005, UL 64/2005)
- Regulation on Foodstuff that isn't Packaged (Official Gazette UL 28/2004, UL 10/2005, UL 57/2005)
- Regulation on Contents of Documents on Congruity of Agricultural Products that is Foodstuff (Official Gazette UL 31/2004)
- Regulation on Establishing Congruity of Agricultural Products that is Foodstuff (Official Gazette UL 45/2004)
- -- Regulation on Fat Based Products Used as Spreads (Official Gazette UL 71/2000, UL 78/2003)

#### 6. Act on Standardization and derived regulations

- Regulation on Meat Quality of Slaughtered Animals and Wiled Animals (Official Gazette UL 31/1996, UL 53/1996, UL 52/1998, UL 85/1998, UL 10/2005)

## II. LABELING REQUIREMENTS

### A. General requirements

- Regulation on General Labeling of Packaged Foodstuff (Official Gazette UL 50/2004, UL 58/2004, UL 43/2005, UL 64/2005)
- Regulation on General Labeling of Foodstuff that isn't Packaged (Official Gazette UL 28/2004, UL 10/2005, UL 57/2005)

According to the Regulation on General Labeling the minimum data on the label is as follows:

- name under which foodstuff is sold
- list of compounds and for some quantity of compounds
- net weight
- expiry date
- foodstuff lot
- storing conditions
- name, title and address from producer, packing company or selling company (that must have address in the E.U.)
- foodstuff origin, if omission of that information could mislead consumer on real origin of the foodstuff
- instructions on how to use foodstuff, if the foodstuff could not be properly used without them
- content of alcohol in alcoholic beverages that contain more than 1.2% vol.

Labeling should not be ambiguous or misleading for the consumer. For details on specific data requested on a label see Regulation mentioned above.

The label on a product that is not packed must include: name under which foodstuff is sold, name or business name of the producer or brand name, product origin if omission of that information would mislead the consumer about product origin, expiry date for prepared food that is microbiologically easily spoiled and other data if other specific regulation demands it.

All labels must be in Slovenian language

We are not aware of products sold with U.S. standard labeling.

4. Stick-on labels, meeting local requirements, can be affixed in addition to the U.S. standard label.

There are special shelf-life and country of origin requirements (see paragraph 1, minimum data on labels).

#### B. Nutritional Labeling Requirements

- Regulation on Nutritional Labeling (Official Gazette UI 60/2002, UL 117/2002, UL 42/2003, UL 121/2004)

According to the Regulation on Nutritional Labeling, nutritional labeling is mandatory only if the producer is represented or markets his/her foodstuffs as having special nutritional characteristics.

If a foodstuff has nutritional label data, the information should be in this order:

##### Group 1

- (a) energy value
- (b) amounts of: proteins, carbohydrates, and fats

## Group 2

- (a) energy value
- (b) amounts of: proteins, carbohydrates, sugars, fats, saturated fat acids, fibers and sodium

Permitted nutrient content claims are the ones that deal with energy value of foodstuff and substances in foodstuff.

Conditions for descriptive labeling of nutritional content in foodstuff are listed in appendix of Regulation on Nutritional Labeling. This list also determines when to use relative descriptions (and what they mean for nutritional content) like "low", "without", "very low"...

The Act Regulating the Sanitary Suitability of Foodstuff, Products and Materials Coming into Contact with Foodstuffs forbids health claims on food products. Only the Minister for Health can allow some foodstuff to have health claims and specify how they should be marked.

(See appendix 1 and 2 for contact information regarding the above).

### III. PACKAGING AND CONTAINER REGULATIONS

- The Law on Measures (Official Gazette UL 22/2000, UL 2004)
- Regulation on Handling of Packing and Packing to be Disposed (Official Gazette RS 104/2000) – This Regulation deals with handling in production, trade and usage; handling in package waste collection, disposal and recycling. This Regulation summarizes contents of EU directive on packaging (94/62/EC) and various provisions on labeling and identification system for packaging and standards that prescribe conditions for quality of packaging

Producers, importers and packagers must provide for the regular disposal of packaging they put on the market at their own cost (that which is communal waste and that which is not communal waste).

Regulation on Handling of Packing and Packing to be Disposed in appendix 1 deals with conditions for production and used materials, as well as packaging adequacy for second usage and recycling.

### IV. FOOD ADDITIVE REGULATIONS

- Act Regulating the Sanitary Suitability of Foodstuff, Products and Materials Coming into Contact with Foodstuffs (Official Gazette UL 52/2000, UL 42/2002, UL 47/2004)
- Regulation on Additives for Foodstuff (Official Gazette UL 43/2004, UL 8/2005)
- Regulation on Measurements of Purity for Additives (Official Gazette UL 45/2004, UL 4/2005))

Regulatory authorities developed an additive lists that can be retrieved at [www.gzs.si](http://www.gzs.si) (English version is still not available).

### V. PESTICIDE AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS

- Regulation on Pesticide Residues on Foodstuff (Official Gazette UL 84/2004)
- Act on Phyto - pharmaceuticals (Official Gazette UL 11/2001, UL 2/2004, UL 37/2004)

Pesticides must be registered at the office for phytosanitary control <http://www.furs.si>



## VI. OTHER REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

Food products do not have to be registered for import in Slovenia, but they have to comply with food-quality standards prescribed by Slovenian laws and regulations.

All shipments that contain food will go through sanitary inspection, that is, they will be randomly tested for quality and health standards.

Product samples shipped via express mail and food for fairs are treated like any other import, so they will be tested for quality and health standards.

At the retail and wholesale level, food storage and foods are inspected on a basis of plan for that year or if an event requires it.

Standard import documents are not prescribed, but the sanitary inspector has the right to ask for additional information from producer for certificates from competent institutions of country of export, for example, producers specification, certificate of origin, certificate of compliance with certain regulation, etc.

## VII. OTHER SPECIFIC STANDARDS

Only metric weights and measures are accepted

Genetically modified organisms (GMO) and food produced from them is regulated by the following: Law on Ratification of Cartagena Protocol (Official Gazette UL 89/2002), Law on Dealing with Genetically Modified Organisms (Official Gazette UL 67/2002, UL 73/2004, UL 23/2005), Regulation (EC) No 1830/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2003 concerning the traceability and labeling of genetically modified organisms and the traceability of food and feed products produced from genetically modified organisms, and amending Directive 2001/18/EC, Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2003 on genetically modified food and feed (Text with EEA reference)

Wine is regulated by: Wine Law (Official Gazette UL 70/1997, 16/2001), Regulation on Labeling and Packing of Wine, Must and Other Grape and Wine Products (Official Gazette UL 40/2001, 52/2003, 44/2005)...

## VIII. COPYRIGHT AND/OR TRADE MARK LAWS

Basic acts regulating this field follow the [Industrial Property Act](#), [Copyright and Related Rights Act](#), the [Act Regulating Customs Measures Relating to Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights](#) and several international treaties to which Slovenia is bound.

Companies interested in the registration of trademarks or brand names have to apply at:

Address: Slovenian Intellectual Property Office  
Kotnikova 6  
SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

Phone: +386 1 478 31 54  
Fax: +386 1 478 31 10  
E-mail: [info@uil-sipo.si](mailto:info@uil-sipo.si)  
Webmaster: [j.kukec@uil-sipo.si](mailto:j.kukec@uil-sipo.si)



Opening hours for public: Monday to Friday from 9.00 to 14.00

#### IX. IMPORT PROCEDURES

All required information could be obtained at:

**Address:** The Customs Administration of the Republic of Slovenia  
Šmartinska 55, 1523 Ljubljana, Slovenia

**Tel.:** +386 1 478 38 00  
**Fax:** +386 1 478 39 00  
**E-mail:** [carina@gov.si](mailto:carina@gov.si)  
**WWW:** <http://carina.gov.si/>

#### APPENDIX I. GOVERNMENT REGULATORY AGENCY CONTACTS

The responsible authority for laws and regulations on sanitary suitability of foodstuff, products and materials coming into contact with foodstuffs; wine; marine fishing; veterinary practice; agriculture in general is:

Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry and Food  
Dunajska 56, 58  
1000 Ljubljana  
tel. 00386 1 478 9000  
fax. 00386 1 478 9021  
[www.mkgp.gov.si](http://www.mkgp.gov.si)

The responsible authority for laws and regulations on some agricultural issues and sanitary suitability of foodstuff, products and materials coming into contact with foodstuffs is:

Ministry of Health  
Stefanova ulica 5  
1000 Ljubljana  
tel. 00386 1 478 6019  
fax. 00386 1 478 6058  
[www.gov.si/mz](http://www.gov.si/mz)

The responsible authority over trade issues is:

Ministry of Economy  
Kotnikova 5  
1000 Ljubljana  
tel. 00386 1 478 3311  
fax 00386 1 433 1031  
[www.mg-rs.si](http://www.mg-rs.si)

The responsible authority over biotechnology issues and waste disposal is:

Ministry for Environment Spatial Planning and Energy  
Dunajska c. 48  
1000 Ljubljana  
tel. 00386 1 478 7400  
[www.sigov.si/mop/](http://www.sigov.si/mop/)

The responsible authority over measurements and standards is:

Slovenian Institute of Quality and Metrology  
Tržaška c. 2  
SI-1000 Ljubljana

Tel: (01) 4778 100  
Faks: (01) 4778 444  
info@siq.si  
ww.siq.si

#### APPENDIX II. OTHER IMPORT SPECIALIST CONTACTS

Information source for reports on Slovenian and other countries is found at:

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/scripts/attacherep/default.asp>

#### EMBASSY (FAS/USDA) POINT OF CONTACT

For questions regarding other issues not covered in this report, please contact:

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[Agricultural Specialist](#)  
[American Embassy, Zagreb](#)  
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